THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S GAY & LESBIAN OPINION & NEWSPAPER VOL. 6 NO. 2 MARCH TO MID APRIL 2003

SERVING THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANGENDER COMMUNITY FOR OVER 5 YEARS!



After conversations with the Valley Free Press, Queen City Pizza Inc., the franchise owner of the Lehigh Valley's Domino's Pizza Restaurants, agreed to modify its anti-discrimination policy to fully protect workers based on sexual orientation and gender identity. This is especially significant because under the national chain's previous owner Tom Monaghan, Domino's had been considered one of the most anti-gay corporations in the country! Read more about this important story on page 7.





CHARLES VERSAGGI MIRIAM LAVANDIER GLBT COMMUNI CANDIDATES R FOR ALLENTOWN SCHOOLBOARD

If you live in Allentown City, you will only be able to vote if you are regsitered by April 18, 2003. You must be registered as a Democrator Republicanto vote in the Primary election on May 20.

The play was first performed as a staged reading in 2000 in Reading and received an Honorable Mention from the Jane Chambers Playwright Award in 2002. Bill Sanders will direct this production, with performances scheduled for May 15, 16 & 17.

SPECIAL PA-GALA EATRE OUTLET BENEFIT PERFORMANCE FRIDAY, MAY 16
FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE PAGE 5

LESBIAN SLAM POET COMING TO LEHIGH FOR HAVEN BENEFIT Alix Olson will perform at 7:30pm on April 6 in the University Center at Lehigh Univ. All proceeds go to the GLBT youth group HAVEN. Alix has been featured in Girlfriends, Curve, the Advocate, Lesbian Review of Books & on Oxygen television, In the Life, CNN & WXPN's World Cafe. She is a Liberty High School graduate. The event is being co-sponsored by Lehigh Univ. Women's Center.

Tickets: \$5 in advance, \$7 at door, \$2 discount for Lehigh students. For ticket info: 610-868-0285.

DEDICATES NEW

On Saturday, March 22 at 2 p.m. the Metropolitan Community Church will hold its Building Dedication Service. Special guests offering words of welcome will include Allentown Mayor Roy Afflerbach and City Councilmember Gail Hoover. A reception will follow the Dedication, As part of the Dedication weekend, MCCLV will host guest preacher Rev. Robert Griffin at both Sunday services on March 23. All are welcome to join MCCLV in dedicating the new space at 1901 South 12th Street in Allentown.

GLOSS ROLLER SKATING

APRIL 3, TO BENEFIT PRIDE Thursday, April 3 from 7-10pm, Whitehall Family Skating Center (Skateaway) Live DJ, Snack Bar, Skate rentals, or bring your own. Tickets: \$5, available at the door. For directions or more info contact GLOSS Phone: 610-434-2966. Email: <Info@gloss.org>, Website: http://www.gloss.org.

AT THEATRE OUTLET

The Enigma Players return to The Theatre Outlet with "Balsamic Vignettes," March 17-19, at 8pm. Tickets: \$10. Reservations stongly suggested. Phone or email Theatre Outlet: 610.820.9270, theatreo @aol.com. T.O. is located at 29 N. 9th St. in Allentown.





PART OF THE FAMILY

We have a new addition to our family! My Christmas present from Janet was the gift of adopting a retired racing greyhound whom we named Cady! Alyssa thought of the name - after Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and she is living up to it to be sure! For those of you already experienced with the process of adopting a child, this is similar in theory, though not as much paperwork.

Adopting a retired racing greyhound takes longer and is more complicated than going to your local shelter for a pet. In fact, some

groups even require home visits.

However, if you are thinking about adding a pet to your family, let me recommend adopting a greyhound. They are quiet, mellow, affectionate, great with kids and other pets, and they require very little in the way of exercise, contrary to popular belief. One would think that they would need a large yard to run, and lots and lots of long walks. Actually, they are great apartment or small house dogs, and only need two or three twenty minute walks per week. Cady is pretty typical and she is a serious couch potato! If this has peaked your interest, I would encourage you to go online and do some research, or get one of the many great books on retired greyhounds (Retired Racing Greyhounds for Dummies, for example).

There are many rescue organizations in the area, as it is common in the racing industry to kill the dogs unless they are adopted. We used the National Greyhound Adoption Program (NGAP) based in

Philly, but there are others more local.

NGAP was super to deal with. Janet and I went together to look at the dogs and they asked us if we were partners. We said yes, and they told us we should make sure that both of us were on the application so that if something happened to one of us, the other would get to keep it. If only one of us was on the application, the dog would have to be returned to NGAP in the event the owner couldn't care for it anymore. They also wanted us to bring all the kids when we went to pick Cady up. They wanted to make sure it was a good match, as well as see how they interacted. Cady has been with us now for 2 months and she is just wonderful. It's hard to imagine how we lived without her. So, if you are looking for a pet, as the saying goes, "Let a greyhound race into your heart!"

MARCUS WAYMAN CASE TO BE RETRIED

The nationally important Marcus Wayman civil court case will be retried in Allentown sometime this summer. Minersville teenager Wayman, committed suicide in 1997 as a result of alleged anti-gay threats made against him by local police as a result of a routine traffic stop. Though the Minersville police were found not criminally guilty, Wayman's family seeks civil justice and restitution over what they and GLBT legal groups consider a case of privacy infringement.

LOCAL GAY OWNED BOOKSTORE

Now and Then Books, located at 29th and Emaus Ave, Allentown is the largest independently owned and operated new/used bookstore in the valley. Now and Then Books offers services that include searching and obtaining out of print books and discounting new releases. They have a wide variety of current paperback and hard bound selections and an entire room devoted to collectible and hard to find books. Gay owned and operated by Tom Christian and Dennis Corocoran, NATB offers a comfortable, friendly environment located minutes from the Metropolitan Community Church. For info: 610-797-1266 website: room environment located minutes from the Metropolitan Community Church. For info: 610-797-1266 website: room environment located minutes from the Metropolitan Community Church.



Dear Denise, I am sick and tired of the on-going fees that I am paying on my checking account. Do you have any suggestions?

Signed, Disgusted With Bank Fees

Dear Disgusted, There are things to look at when evaluating your checking account. Your needs will vary depending on how you use them. If you're a lesbian in the Lehigh Valley, who writes a lot of checks, but maintains a sizable balance, the checking account that fits your needs is different from the gay man in Philly, who writes relatively few checks and doesn't want to carry much of a balance.

One thing is consistent, however, no matter where you live or how you spend your money: the privilege of writing a check is getting more expensive. Banks are charging consumers of every orientation, higher fees and service charges while cutting the interest rates on interest bearing accounts, which is nominal to

begin with.

If you're shopping around for a new checking account, bankrate.com offers a section that lets you choose a metropolitan area and then you select the checking "personality" that best fits your habits. You can see side-by-side offerings by the different banks. This handy Web tool saves a lot of phone time to check rates.

Checking accounts are about the worst place to earn interest, especially with declining interest rates. For the first time, more than half of all interest accounts offer a yield of less than 1 percent per year. This is a disgrace, considering the average minimum balance required to open an account and earn interest is about \$700.

If a non-interest bearing checking account is OK by you, you will "only" have to pony up an average of \$76 to open one. Interest bearing accounts want you to keep an average balance of \$2,400 in your account to avoid fees. The average balance in a

non-interest checking account is about \$400.

If you don't want to keep a high balance in an interest checking account, the average monthly service fee is \$10.85. The non-interest bearing account will charge you a monthly fee of around \$6.20. A "No Monthly Service Fee, No Minimum Balance" is hard to find, unless you are able to join a credit union. Another option may be a money market account. However, there may be restrictions on the number of checks you write each month or there may be a minimal amount per check, like \$100, which you must write. Should you write a check for \$90, you will get a warning to only write checks for at lease \$100. This type of account can be used as a Secondary Reserve for cash.

Bouncing a check will costs you a bundle. The cost has increased dramatically. The average cost is \$25. Overdraft Protection can save you a bunch. It is a way to protect your wallet from those whopping nonsufficient funds (NSF) fees, and it is available almost universally for both interest and non-interest accounts.

Take some time to go to bankrate.com's site and compare the costs and the services.

Denise McKelvey is a Financial Advisor for American Express Financial Advisors, Inc. Please forward your questions to <Denise.M.Mckelvey@AEXP.com> or send them to 5000 Tilghman Street Suite 157 Allentown PA 18104. Information provided may not be suitable for your particular financial situation.

ECUMENICAL TASK FORCE

The Ecumenical Continuing Education Task Force on Gays and Lesbians in the Church, invites you and other members of your GLBT supportive group to attend a meeting on: Tuesday, March 18 from 7:00- 8:45 pm at Moravian Theological Seminary, 60 W. Locust Street, Bethlehem. RSVP: Jim Palmquist, 610-398-3074, muttnjeff@enter.net>, or Office of Continuing Ed, 610-861-1519, seminaryOCE@moravian.edu>.

The Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown holds social events open to GLBT singles and couples.

For information about GLORA's latest events, email GLORAinPA@aol.com or write to GLORA PO Box 1952, Allentown PA. 18105-1952.

GLOSS GAME NIGHTS

The next Gay and Lesbian Organised Sports Society board game nights are March 15 and April 26 in Bethlehem. And don't forget the roller skating party will be on April 3 (see front page). Contact GLOSS for directions and information. Phone: 610-434-2966, Email: <Info@gloss.org. Website: http://www.gloss.org.

TUSCANY

Il Chiostro will host a 1-week hiking program for gay men and lesbians through the Chianti hills in Tuscany. The dates of the event are May 10-17, 2003. The program is small (10 people max). For details check the web page: http://www.ilchiostro.com/g&l.htm. \$100 discount to GLOSS members. Mention GLOSS at the time of registration.

The LV Gay Men's Chorus will present

3Dreams and Prayers2, directed by Dr. J. A. Kawarsky, on Saturday June 7 at the Wesley United Methodist Church at 2540 Center St., Bethlehem at 8 P.M. Tickets are \$12 (\$6 for Students & Srs.) Reserve Tickets by calling 610-366-3320

UUCLY TO INSTALL NEW MINISTER

The Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley is celebrating the installation | Health Issues: Anything you ever wanted of the Reverend Dr. Len De Roche, UUCLV to know about Safe Sex & HIV, free and ticket prices. invites the whole community to attend condoms and dental dams. 12-1pm pizza services at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 27 at & soda will be served: Global Union, 424 Center St., Bethlehem. For more info Lehigh University. For more info contact: email uuclv@uuclvpa.org, call 610-866- Cecilia Stanton at ces8@leh.edu 7652, or see www.uuclvpa.org.

STEVIE Z 15 BACK

Pianist Stevie Z will be appearing at the Brick Tavern Inn (Quakertown) on March 15 & 29 and April 5 & 12 from 6:30-9:30PM . For reservations: 215-538-0865. Stevie is also piano accompanist at the 2PM Dedication Service for the new MCC Worship Space on Saturday, March 22. He returns to the Moose Lounge on Friday, March 28 from 9PM-Midnite. Please remember half of all tips go to local community organizations. For March, it's Pride of the Lehigh Valley.

B&N GLBT **BOOK CLUB**

The Barnes & Noble GLBT Book Club meets every month at the Whitehall store. Upcoming dates and selections: MAR 2003: Tuesday, March 18, 2003 at 7:00PM. March's title is: "Martin Bauman or a Sure Thing" by David Leavitt. APR 2003: meets Tuesday, April 15, 2003 at 7:00PM. The group will be selecting a title by the next meeting. Keep watch in the VFP for the annoucement. B&N Store Phone: 610-821-7732.

BENEFIT PART

The Big Shiny Disco Ball- Sunday, April 6th @ The Stonewall 8pm-2am. \$5 cover includes free giveaways and drag show with the area's hottest performers. 50/50 raffle. Check out the new VaniTees and SubtleTees. To benefit One Vision, One Mission(OVOM) and its mission to promote awareness & tolerance through the use of film and other media. Must be 18 to party, 21 to drink. Bring old friends and meet new ones.

Theatre Outlet will present OVOM's new documentary, My Trans Mission on Saturday, April 12 @ 8pm. The fictional Shawn Bausher Show is the setting for the discussion on transgender issues. Filming took place at the Theatre Outlet last fall. \$12 admission includes wine & cheese reception to follow the screening. TO is located at 29 N. 9th St., Allentown. Reservations recommended: 610-820-9270. To volunteer or purchase OVOM videos contact One Vision, One Mission at <STL327@hotmail.com>.

LEHIGH UNIV. EVENT

Thursday, March 20 -- Gay and Lesbian

COLLEGE GLBT CALENDAR

Mulhenberg College's Gay Straight Alliance will be creating a calendar of local and college GLBT events. If your group is interested in posting events on the Muhlenberg Calendar, please contact Sarah Burghauser at: SBB9170 @aol.com, or (484)-664-6284.

'PASSAGES," FOR TRANS PEOPLE

REGIONAL PRIDE ORGANIZERS TO HOLD 2004 CONVENTION IN ALLENTOWN

Members of North East Regional Pride (NERP) representing Pride organizations in the states of CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, VT, RI and Washington, D.C. voted to bring next year's conference to Allentown. GLBT focused conventions choose to come to cities that have antidiscrimination laws in place and a strong GLBT community supporting a variety of groups and organizations. Pride of Lehigh Valley and Capital Pride of Albany, bid for the convention. Pride of Lehigh Valley won the vote to host the conference. Congratulations Pride LV!

PRIDE FILM SERIES

The LV Pride Film Committee has begun a monthly film festival.

March Film Night: Saturday, March, 22. Film: Golden Threads, \$6.00, (\$4.00 students, w/ ID), UUCLV, 424 Center St. Bethlehem at 7:30pm. When a lesbian networking service returns 72 year old Christine Burton's application and check with a note saying, "Have you made a mistake about your date of birth? Nobody wants to meet lesbians older than 50," Burton turns rejection into inspiration and launches Golden Threads a quarterly newsletter connecting more than 1,600 women worldwide.

April Film Night *Co-Sponsored with and will also benefit FACT. Sunday, April 6. (additional info TBA), Film, "Sordid Lives." A black comedy" about a dysfunctional family. For more information contact Pride or the Film Committee at: <FilmFestival @ pridelv.org> or < www.pridelv.org>

19TH ST. FILM SCHEDULE Rabbit-Proof Fence -- March 16-23, City of God -- March 22-30, The Quiet American,

March 29-April 6, Russian Ark -- April 5-13. Call the movieline: 610-432-0888, for times,

PFLAG LV

The PFLAG LV (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) meets monthly at Allentown's First Presbyterian Church (Cedar Crest Blvd. and Tilghman) Sts.) on first Tuesdays. at 7:00 pm., Rm 115. Contact: pflag@fast.net or (610) 967-5219 for information. There are also PFLAG meetings in Reading, Pottsville and Monroe County: See page 4 for meeting dates.

PFLAG LV'S NEW WEB SITE HTTP://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org/

NM- 14TH STATE TO GRANT RIGHTS

The New Mexico State Senate and House will meet Wednesdays at 7pm at the has voted to pass a bill which broadens the William Way Center at 1315 Spruce. Phil. state's Human Rights Act to cover sexual Contact: Michelle O'Brien:mobrien orientation and gender identity, prohibiting @actionaids.org, 215.981.3351 discrimination in employment, housing, eredit, public accommodations and union membership

CALENDAR⁴

ACCO-A Chorus Celebrating Women,

AIDS Outreach-112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA

610.435.8424 AIDSWALK- AIDSWALK Lehigh Valley

ASC-AIDS Service Center 610.974.8701 BMA- Bucks/Montgomery Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Concerns 215-529-0360

B&N- Barnes and Noble Gay&Lesbian Book Club, White Hall store, Monthly, 7:00pm

BEARS.-1st Saturdays Monthly, 8pm, at the Stonewall, Moose Lounge 610-814-6916, Mtnbear @fast.net.

CIVIC and 19th St. Theater, 527 N 19th St, 610-

432-8943, <.civictheater, com>

Enigma Players -- gacres@prolog.net equal@agere-email: equal@agere.com FACT- Fighting AIDS Continuously Together 610.820.5519

GLEE at Air Products GLISN- at Dun & Bradstreet, <vagranthollow.com/GLISN/>

GLÖRA-Gay and Lesbian Organization

of Reading and Allentown (Social gatherings, various dates) Newsletter-The Tassle. Write to: P.O. Box 1952, Allentown PA18105-1952, email-GLORAinPA@AOL.COM

GLOSS - Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society, P.O.Box 21862 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 610.434.2966. GLOW-at PPL

GLSEN-Gay, Lesbian, Straight, Education Network, 610-867-6641, csbarron 21@aol.com Meetings, at 7:00 pm in rooms 108-109 of the Seeger Student Union, Muhlenberg College

GMLV- Gay Men of the Lehigh Valley, 2nd

Saturdays Monthly 7pm, 610-709-8800 HAVENGLBT Youth Group of the UUC LV call:610-868-215, email: havenyouthgroup @hotmail.comorzinnes@fast.net HMFF-Hope Ministry Family Fellowship, Hamilton St. 610-791-0716

Sundays, 11 am, Open Space Gallery, 931 Integrity- Lesbian & Gay Episcopalians Family & Friends meets quarterly. 610-758-8642 integritybeth@mindspring.com" KS-Kindred Spirits- Support, discussion, and social group for lesbians and bisexual women Contact: Chris at 610-868-0248, or Donna at

LVGMC -Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus, email:info@lvmgc.org, <www.lvgmc.org> 610-366-3320, rehearsals: Wesley Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem

MCC - Metropolitian Community Church, Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown Services: 10:30am & 6pm, mcclehigh

valley@ yahoo.com, http://www.mcclv.org 610-

610.997.00607

<www.pridelv.org>

610.974.8701 www.regiononline.com/lvaids

MARCH 2003

HMFF UUCLV 3LOMCC

MCC 30 GLOSS 31

HMFF 24 RAA

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 HMFF UUCLV GLOMCC	3 RAA GLSEN	4 LV PFLAG LVGMG	1	6 PFLAG M RAA GLOSS	7
9 HMFF UUCLV MCC GLOSS	10 _{RAA}	GLOSS LVGMC	12 NFTMD HAVEN	13 _{ACCO} RAA GLOSS	14 KS
HMFF UUCLV	17 RAA Enigma Play	18 PFLAG R LVGMC GLOSS ers Enigma Playe Ecumenical Mee	19 HAVEN Enigma Player ers ting	20 PFLAG P S ACCO Lehigh U. GLOSS BAA	21 KS

В& Вооксцив

MCC

Tuesday

LVGMC

GLOSS

APRIL 2003 REGISTER TO VOTE BY APRIL 18!

HAVEN

GLOSS RAA

27

Wednesday Thursday

GLOSS

ACCO RAA

KS

28 StevieZ

Jamaay	Monday	1 GLOSS LVGMC LV PFLAG	2 HAVEN	3 GLOSS Skating PFLAG M RAA	4	5 GLOSS ^{BEARS}
6WDIYHMFF Alix Olsen MCC OVOM Pride Film	1.	8 GLOSS MCC D LVGMC	9 HAVEN AY OF SILENC	10 GLOSS RAA	11 KS	12 GMLV GLOSS StevieZ
13 MCC _{WDIY} HMFF	14 RAA	15 LVGMC GLOSS PFLAG R B&N BOOKO	16HAVEN	17 RAA GLOSS PFLAG P	18 KS	19 WDIY GLOSS
20 MCC UUCLV	21 MCC RAA	22 GLOSS LVGMC MCC	23 HAVEN UUCLV Lecture	24 RAA GLOSS	²⁵ KS	26WDIY GLOSS GLOSS Game Night
27 WDIY MCC UUCLV HMFF	28 RAA	29 GLOSS LVGMC	30 HAVEN			

AY 2003 PRIMARY ELECTION MAY 20 Tuesday Wednesday

valley@ yahoo.com, http://www.mcclv.org 610-	Sunday	Monuay	luesuay	vveunesuay	Thursday	rriday	Saturday
709-8800 NCC- Northampton Community College GLB Student Union, 610.861.5541(#1386) or 882- 2531					PFLAG M RAA ACCO GLOSS	2	3 WDIY BEARS LOSS
19th St/Civic Theatre - 610.432.8943 Out There- Students at Cedar Crest College OVOM-LV Documentary Film Org, PA-GALA - PA Gay And Lesbian Alliance for	4 HMFF UUCLV GLOMCC	5 RAA GLSEN	6 LVGMC GLOSS LV PFLAG	7 HAVEN	8 RAA ACCO GLOSS	9 KS	10 _{WDIY} GLOSS
Political Action, (Candidate Info Booklet, & Political Lobbying) For membership: send \$20 to: P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002 610.432.5449 pa-gala.org	11 HMFF MCC _{GLOSS} UUCLV	12 RAA	GLOSS LVGMC	14 NFTMD HAVEN	"Bricks"	Benefit	17WDIY GLOSS "Bricks" GLOSS on Game Night

HAVEN

Political Action, (Candidate Info Booklet, & Political Lobbying) For membership: send \$20 to: P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002 610.432.5449 pa-gala.org
PFLAG - LV Parents Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church Allentown 610.967.5219

19 RAA UUCIV SLOMCC 25 HMFF 26 RAA

20 PRIMARY 21 HAVEN

29

RAA ACCO **GLOSS**

23

30

KS

24 KS

GLOSS WDIY 31 **GLOSS**

WDIY

Saturday

GLORAGLOSS

WDIY BEARS

GLOSS WDIY

WDIY

15 StevieZ

GLOSS Game

Night

22 Pride Film

MCC Dedication

29 StevieZ

GLOSS

GLOSS WDIY

WDIY

<HTTP://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org/> Pride - Pride of the Lehigh Valley, (Pride Festival) 610.770.6200, email: <lvpride@hotmail.com>, QuEST - Student group at Lafayette College Farion Center Box 429 Easton, PA, <QuEST_Lafayette@hotmail.com>

27 MCC LVGMC

28

LECTION N BOOKCLUB

512 1/2 mi. North of Rte 22 Bethlehem, FA. Worship at 9:30 am. (610)691-3411 RAA- Rainbow AA meetings, Mon. & Thurs. Episcopal Church, 16th & Turner Atown. Ren- Renaissance Transgendered Assoc. P.O.Box 157 Trexlertown 18087 - 610-814-0530/0531

Quakers-Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting-Route

Rainbow Space - Muhlenberg College

Organization 610.821.3244 Reading P-FLAG-610.488.7533or 670.8029 Safe Space- At Lehigh U. 610.758.5973

Saint John's Lutheran Church- A welcoming gay affirming church, 32 S. 5th st. Allentown 610.435.1587 Softball-(Women's) call Diamonz, 610.865.1028 Spectrum- at Lehigh Univ., 610.758.5973 T.O. - Theatre Outlet-29 Nth 9th St, Allentown,

610-820-9270. Unity-26 N. 3rd St. Emmaus, 767-4417 UUCLV - Unitarian Universalist Church LV, 424 Center St., Bethlehem, 18018 610.866.7652. VFP - Valley Free Press. 610.432.5449 liztrish@aol.com VYH - Valley Youth House for emotionally

troubled GLBT youth 610.432.6481 WDIY - WDIY - 88.1 fm 93.9 fm Saturday 7:00 pm This Way Out, Assorted Women 7:30 pm. 610 694-8100.88. SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS:

GLBT YOUTH GROUP
HAVEN - WEDNESDAYS
LV BEARS - 15T SATURDAYS
GAY MEN-LV - 2ND SATURDAYS
LV PFLAG - 15T TUESDAYS
MONROE PFLAG - 15T THURSDAYS
READING - PFLAG 3RD TUESDAYS
POTTSVILLE PFLAG
- 3RD THURSDAYS
GLOSS VOLLEYBALL -TUESDAYS
GLOSS VOLLEYBALL -TUESDAYS
GLOSS TENNIS - SUNDAYS
GLOSS RACQUETBALL -TUES & SATS
MCC BOOK STUDY 2ND & 4TH TUES
KINDRED SPIRITS
- ALL FRIDAYS EXCEPT THE 1ST

- ALL FRIDAYS EXCEPT THE 1ST

MAR 15 - GLOSS GAME NIGHT
MAR 15 - STEVIE Z @ BRICK TAVERN
MAR 17-19 - ENIGMA PLAYERS @ TO
MAR 18 - BEN BOOKCLUB
MAR 18 - ECUMENICAL TASK FORCE
MAR 20 - GAY & LESBIAN HEALTH
ISSUES @ LEHIGH
MAR 22 - MCCLY DEDICATION
MAR 22 - MCCLY DEDICATION
MAR 22 - PRIDE FILM NIGHT
MAR 28 - STEVIE Z @ BRICK TAVERN
APR 1 - PFLAG - LV ALLENTOWN
APR 1 - PFLAG - LV ALLENTOWN
APR 3 - GLOSS ROLLER SKATING
APR 5 - STEVIE Z @ BRICK TAVERN
APR 6 - ALIX OLSEN @ LEHIGH
APR 6 - PRIDE FILM NIGHT
APR 9 - PRO-GLBT DAY OF SILENCE
APR 12 - STEVIE Z @ BRICK TAVERN
APR 15 - BEN BOOKCLUB
APR 23 - UUCLY GREEN SPACE
LECTURE SERIES
APR 26 - GLOSS GAME NIGHT
APR 27 - UUCLY INSTALLATION
MAY 16 - PFLAG-LV ALLENTOWN
MAY 15-17 - BRICKS @ TO
MAY 16 - BRICKS PERORMANCE
TO BENEFIT PA-GALA & TO
MAY 20 - PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

TO BENEFIT PA-GALA & TO MAY 20 - PRIMARY ELECTION DAY JUNE 7 - LVGMC CONCERT JUNE 22 - LV PRIDE FESTIVAL INFORMATION

SUBJECT TO CHANGE CALL TO CONFIRM! TO POST INFO: 610-432-5449 EMAIL: LIZTRISH@AOL.COM

MCC NFTMD EVENTS A GREAT SUCCESS

CEREMONY On Saturday, February 8, Metropolitan Community

Church of the Lehigh Valley hosted its third annual National Freedom to Marry Day celebration at the Ice House on Sand Island, Bethlehem. An ecumenical

service was held with twelve retired, active, and student clergy and cultural representatives of various denominations and religions or cultures, presiding.

Over thirty couples received a blessing of their relationships. Then six same-sex couples affirmed their life commitment to each other and were married under God.

Over 140 people joined in the celebration. The night continued with a reception and dance. The ceremony

was covered in the Express Times, and also in an excellent report by Channel 69 TV News. CIVIL ACTION On Valentine's Day, member's of MCC participated in a National Freedom to Marry Day civil action. Two same-sex couples, backed by other church members

and Rev. Beth Goudy, applied for marriage licenses at the Northampton County Government Center. They knew they would be turned down, but the effort was to focus media attention on the lack of legal equality when marriage is denied to gay and lesbian couples. The event was a success because it was covered

by both the Express Times and the Morning Call. Rev. Goudy was quoted and one of the couples, Earl Ball and Tim Hare, appeared in a photo and was quoted extensively. MCC and other supporters of equal rights, plan to repeat this Valentine's day effort annually until

questions and or feedback to STL327@hotmail.com

legal marriage rights are granted.

VT CIVIL UNION & MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS Married on March 2, 2003 Deb Larison

Vanesså Taggart

Rev. Elizabeth Goudy officiating

OTHER MCC NEWS Every Wednesday during Lent

MCCLV will offer a "Service of Psalms and Prayer at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. MCCLV will present its 3rd

Annual Open-Invitation Presentation of the Hallelujah Chorus at its Dedication Service on Sat., March 22 at 2 pm. Anyone who is familiar with the Chorus is welcome to join in. If you need to refresh your memory of the music, contact Ministry Leader Anthony Young, for rehearsal times. MCCLV is located in the

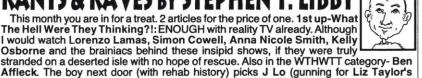
Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown, mcclehighvalley@yahoo.com, http://www.mcclv.org610-709-8800.

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE OF "BRICKS" TO BENEFIT PA-GALA. T.O. In celebration of last year's passage of the PA Hate Crimes Bill, PA-GALA will host a special benefit performance of "Bricks" written by local playwright, Sue Sneeringer. Tickets for the Friday, May 16 performance will be \$20 and will include a wine & hors

d'oeuvre reception. Tickets will only be available through PA-GALA. To reserve: 610-432-5449, liztrish@aol.com. Proceeds will go to PA-GALA& Theater Outlet.

RANTS & RAVES BY STEPHEN T.

This month you are in for a treat. 2 articles for the price of one. 1st up-What The Hell Were They Thinking?!: ENOUGH with reality TV already. Although I would watch Lorenzo Lamas, Simon Cowell, Anna Nicole Smith, Kelly Osborne and the brainiacs behind these insipid shows, if they were truly stranded on a deserted isle with no hope of rescue. Also in the WTHWTT category- Ben



Winston diamond would look on my finger? Jenny from the block, my ass! She couldn't find the block again with a map. And let me get this "straight," Michael Jackson has only had 2 surgeries and sleeps with the same gender...platonically. Yeah, me too! George Bush. Sorry. I know it's not fashionable to bash this commander in chief and trust me, I would never want his job. However his, "if you're not with us you're against us," attitude has got to go. America was built on independent minded and free spirited people. Just because one is anti-war does not make one anti-American.

marriage record) for his bride to be? What!? Doesn't Ben know how great a Harry

2nd article starts now: This is March, AKA: Academy Awards Month, AKA: The Gay Superbowl. My predictions: Should wins: The Pianist (just the best damn movie of the year), Adrian Brody (actor- the academy will feel the nom is enough), Julianne Moore (actress/supp actress- no actor has won both in the same year), R Polanski (directornever in a million years because of the statuetory rape charges from 25 yrs ago), Chris Cooper (supp actor). Will wins: Chicago (definitely the most entertaining movie of the year and a return to form for the musical), Jack Nicholson (he stole this award from Duvall a few years ago and he'll steal it from Brody this year), Nicole Kidman (she plays a suicidal literary figure with a prosthetic nose, need I say more?), Meryl Streep (supp actress- snubbed for The Hours she will be compensated here), Chris Cooper (deserved). Martin Scorsese (director-for his body of work, as he has never won). Email



Dear WTA: I was praying that you may be able to shed some light on a personal issue I am really concerned with. I have been questioning my sexuality now for about 1 year and I think I am Bi. I want to go ahead and finally try to go through with my desires but am afraid of the outcome if I find out that it was all some kind of "weird" fantasy. Is there any way of knowing how to tell if the feelings I have are real? Please, any help or advice would be greatly appreciated. Signed: A friend

Dear Friend: We don't usually get emails like this at WTA. But you seem sincere, so here's our response. Same-sex or opposite sex attractions are, in general, pretty normal. If you feel what might be your sexual orientation could just be a "weird fantasy," we suggest you seek out a qualified therapist who is not anti-qay to talk over

your concerns.

Last month the VFP submissions deadline announcement was delayed due to email server problem, which made this paper late. So here are the deadlines for the next twelve months. We'll try to stick to them, but in case of emergency, publication dates may

Submissions for April 2003 issue , deadline Monday , March 24.
Submissions for May 2003 issue , deadline Monday, April 21.
Submissions for June 2003 issue , deadline Wednesday, May 21.
Submissions for June Pride Festival issue - covers July 2003, deadline
Saturdat, June 14.

Submissions for combined August-September Issue 2003, deadline,

Monday, July 21.

Submissions for October 2003, deadline Sunday, September 21.
Submissions for November 2003, deadline Tuesday, October 21.
Submissions for December 2003, deadline Friday, November 21.
Submissions for combined January-February issue 2004, deadline Sunday, December 21, 2003.

Submissions for March 2004, deadline Saturday, Febrary 21 Submissions for April 2004, deadline Sunday, March 21

VFP has a new policy. We will no longer print partial names submitted in press releases, that do not include last names or that include only the initial of the person's last name. Exceptions: single professional stage names will be allowed and regular columnists may determine how names are presented in their own columns. VFP of course will continue to only print people's names if permission to do so is confirmed.

Dear WTA: Last month "Scott Says" mentioned, "stopping by for a smart cocktail." What the heck is that?

Scott replies: That term, "smart cocktail," was introduced to me by my friend, Gary. He took a course on how to start your business. One day in class a student asked, "How are we supposed to wine and dine potential investors when we have no money to wine and dine? It is like putting the cart before the ox." The teacher replied, "Well, you could always serve a smart cocktail and a discreet hors d'oeuvre," and then moved on to the next question like this answer settled everything. Friends from the beach devised a "dumb cocktail." On the last night of your vacation pour all the left over alcohol in the frig into a pitcher and serve. That way you don't take stuff home.

Liz Bradbury reports that she has decided to change the name of her column back to the title she wrote under in Above Ground magazine; 'Liz OUT Loud.' 'A View From a Dyke', was an amusing pun, but the word 'dyke' has become sort of old-fashioned. I never really thought of it as offensive, just a slang term for lesbian. But like the word 'queer' (which is far more offensive to many people), its time has come and gone."

SCOTT SAYS

By Scott Laubner

SHOPPING FOR MR RIGHT

A friend told me if I was looking for men, I had to go grocery shopping on Fridays. Since I was low on rosemary anyway I thought, what the heck, I'll

try it. I went to the store to continue my research on finding Mr. Right. I would conduct my own study; put the "anal" back in "analysis." In what aisle would I find a group of gay men? The Floral Department? The Meat Department? (And what is a group of gay men called anyway? A Cluster? A Gaggle? A Pride?)

I picked out a clean cart, clicked on my gaydar, and walked down the first aisle. An attractive blond pushed his cart toward me. He had already picked out the ingredients for a tasty quiche, Martha Stewart Living, and a half gallon of skim milk. I thought to myself this one has got to be family, when all of a sudden he picked the plain old boring yellow post-its, when there was a fabulous rainbow assortment right next to his bland choice. I moved on to my next scope.

A brunette drove his cart past me. Cornish game hens, some body wash and a box of fat free fruit bars were in his cart. This dude has got to be a friend of Dorothy. But when he reached for a copy of

Sports Illustrated, I knew I had to continue my search.

A redhead strode past me and I checked out his basket. Then I checked out what he had in his shopping cart. It contained a peach scented candle, facial cleanser and some low fat yogurt. This had got to be a Thursday Boy, if I ever saw one. I followed him out to the parking lot and was preparing my best pick up line when I saw the Pat Buchanan for President bumper sticker on his car. This wasn't the one I wanted either.

And so my little chipmunk readers, I went home with no Mr. Right, only Mr.Clean. Maybe someday I'll be able to get him with

my discount shopper card.

GLOSS GROUPS ON LINE

The Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society reminds readers that Yahoo Groups offer the opportunity to communicate with people who share a specific interest. To join a specific group, send an empty email message to xxx-subscribe@yahoo groups.com. Where xxx is, name the group. For example, if you would like to join the outdoors group, send a message to <gloss-outdoors-subscribe@yahoogroups.com>.

Here's the list of GLBT Lehigh Valley GLOSS e-groups: gloss-bowling>, <gloss-bridge>, for ballroom, partner, swing, country, or Latin dancing - <gloss-dance>, for hiking, backpacking, camping, fishing and other outdoor activity - <gloss-outdoors>, racquetball - gloss-rball, skiing, snowboarding and other winter sports - <gloss-ski>, discussion group for sports, whether you're a spectator or an active participant - <gloss-sports>, gloss-tennis, volleyball - gloss-vball, discussion group for the general LV GLBT community - <OutinLV >, discussion group.for gay couples in the LV, talk, share, socialize - <gaycouplesgroupPA>.

PRO-GLBT SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION

The 8th annual Day of Silence will be observed on April 9. Participating students and teachers take a vow of silence to protest discrimination leveled at LGBT people in schools. For more information and a complete collection of organizing materials, visit GLSEN's www.dayofsilence.org.

FOR LEGAL INFO ON 2ND PARENT ADOPTION

For information on 2nd parent adoption or if your lawyer has questions call The Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights in Philadelphia toll free at 1-866-LGBT-LAW.

Valley. Free Press does not discriminate on the basises listed in the antidiscrimination statement on page 8, and asks that organizations or individuals which request VFP to publish information about their events maintain a similar policy.



LIZ OUT LOUD

YOU HAVE TO ASK By Liz Bradbury

Lately, we've been reporting on the antidiscrimination policies (or lack thereof) of Domino's Pizza. The national company used to be owned by ultra-conservative multimillionaire Tom Monaghan, who is aggressively anti-gay. But readers wrote in to remind us that Monaghan does not own Domino's

any more and that it is local franchise owners who set policy.

Queen City Pizza owns the Domino's stores is our area and local QCP employees felt it was a good company with a pro-gay policy. Unfortunately, though QCP's anti-discrimination policy included sexual orientation, it only protected people from discrimination. And it didn't mention gender identity at all.

It was certainly possible that Queen City Pizza didn't realize its policy had this loophole. So I vowed to talk to the owners of QCP. And I did. Franchise owner Tom Bolger and Policy Manager Bill Morris, were great. I explained to them on the phone about the lack of laws that protect GLBT people and what gender identity means. Here's some of what I said to them via email and some of what they

From me to them: Dear Mr. Bolger and Mr. Morris, Thank you for talking to me today about the anti-discrimination policy at Queen City Pizza Inc. ...there are several places in (your) policy that say things like: "In accordance with applicable federal, state and local anti-discrimination laws," ... etc. ...(As) there are no anti-discrimination laws at the Federal or Pennsylvania State level that make it illegal to ... discriminate against (GLBT people except in) the City of Allentown... (your) policy contains a pretty big loophole with regard to discrimination protections... It would be great if you could just remove the references to "laws," and stick to the intent of the policy ... your policy does not include anything about gender identity, which is something you might want to include as well...

They wrote back to me: Dear Liz Bradbury: I enjoyed speaking with you today. I also want to thank you for both the education and the opportunity to clarify the intent of our discrimination policy.

The policy's intent was to establish the standard that people working, or applying for work, at Queen City Pizza Inc. (DBA Domino's Pizza) would not be discriminated against for any reason. We also wanted to convey that there would be zero tolerance towards discrimination in any form and that those in supervisory positions must discipline their subordinates who do, or face discipline themselves.

We strive to create a people based company full of individuals who enjoy being part of a diverse team that takes great care of all our customers...

We thought that by inserting the additional classifications to the legally required ones in the policy, it would convey that we were protecting and welcoming those as well; and that leaving the references to the law would add more force to it. Thank you for pointing out that those references hurt the strength of our policy instead of helping it.

With that in mind I would be glad to make the revisions as we discussed when our new handbooks go to print this spring or summer. I will remove the references to the law and let the policy stand on not engaging in or tolerating any discrimination. I will also change "sexual preference or orientation" to "sexual orientation" and I will add "gender identity" to the policy.

I did want to send the message that all are welcome to work here based on their ability to do the job, and that they will find a team oriented environment free of discrimination. Thanks for helping me clarify that message. Bill Morris

THE "DOMINO EFFECT

Valley Free Press encourages you to see if the anti-discrimination policy at your job includes sexual orientation and gender identity. If not, ask them to add it. Or call VFP and we'll ask them. Let's create a "Domino Effect" and get all Lehigh Valley businesses to support equal rights. VFP: 610-432-5449 liztrish@aol.com

TRISH'S COLUMN By Patricia Sullivan

PLACE WHERE EVERYBODY KNOWS YOUR NAME.

Liz and I are very different. At least I think we are. Recently, though it has become more and more apparent to me that in our own community, many people don't know which one of us is Liz and which is



Trish. Some of you think you know, but are you really sure? It doesn't really bother us, but it's surprising how many people we have know for years that call me Liz and call Liz, Trish. There are even people who call each of us Liztrish as though Liztrish were our names. And meanwhile, in the non GLBT community, many people only recognize us if we are together. Does this mean we have lost touch with our individuality altogether?

The Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley asked Liz and me to speak during the "couples moment" at their National Freedom to Marry Day Celebration. We were very honored to be asked. We are not members of MCC, but we respect MCC's work on behalf of the local GLBT community under the leadership of Reverend Beth Goudy. We accepted the invitation to speak and to be one of the six same-sex couples married by the church, as an effort toward awareness of the political fight by gay men and lesbians for legal marriage rights. In a moment chosen to bring a little humor to the occasion, we talked about how a lot of you don't know which is Liz and which is Trish.

Liz recounted how she decided to put our pictures in the Valley Free Press next to our columns to make it easier for people to tell us apart. One reader, who had been calling me Liz for years, told us that she was so sure she was right, that she thought we had mixed up the pictures. Liz said that you can remember Liz is the loud one and loud begins with L and Patricia is the petite one, and petite begins with P. and while there are times when Patricia may be loud, Liz will never be petite. At that point in the "couples moment," we each hung signs around our necks with our names printed in really big bold letters. The signs got a really big laugh. It was amusing to me, because earlier in the evening at least five different people had called me Liz. So, we cleared up the, "which is Liz and which is Trish conundrum."

Several days later Liz and I were shopping at a local store where I almost always check out with the same cashier. The cashier is very efficient and pleasant. When we checked out, the cashier talked to us as if we were pals. As the cashier handed me my receipt she said. Congratulations! I saw you on the news (Channel 69 had covered the event). It was a wonderful report." She hadn't said anything when I had purchased something from her the day before, but this day we were the much more recognizable Liztrish team.

I guess that's why it really doesn't bother us that people don't know which is which, because we really are a team. Just don't ask me to speak to the press, or ask Liz to coordinate a mailing.

By the way, at an event last week, seven different people, some of whom I have known for years, called me Liz.

SPECTRUM - LEHIGH GLBT GROUP

The Officers of Spectrum at Lehigh Univ. announce, "Our group's mission is to provide a welcoming environment to all students regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity and to reach out to the gay community. Lehigh will host its 1st annual Dzo It Dzamnit Extravaganzaa! at the end of March. All LV colleges, universities, and youth groups are welcome. Come as you want, dress as you may, and just...DZO IT DZAMNIT!!!" For info: Quinn Allen: qaa2@ lehigh.edu -(610) 974-2224, Amir Montgomery: clm3@lehigh.edu - 610- 974-2614 or Cecilia Stanton: ces8@lehigh.edu - 610-758-5973.

UUCLY LECTURE SERIES ON GREEN BUILDING

The UUCLV Green Space Committee & the Sierra Club are beginning a lecture series on April 23, at 7 pm at UUCLV. The 1st speaker will be Sigi Koko, Environmental Architect and Consultant. The lectures will the 4th Wednesday of each month (5/28,6/25& 7/23). For information, contact zinnes@fast.net.



1. In The Hours, Nicole Kidman plays: A. Virginia Woolf B. Laura C. Clarissa D. Sally

was the gay character on Dynasty A. Kenny B. Alexis C. Blake D. Stephen

is the only state that exempts breast feeding from all indecency laws, (no matter how much breast is showing): A. North Carolina B. Kentucky C. South Carolina D.Arizona

4. Virginia Woolf is known to have had a "big affair" with: A. Natalie Barney B. Alice Toklas C. Vita Sackville-West D. Radcliffe Hall

5. What is the name of the actor who plays Will's (Will & Grace) new boyfriend? A. Jay Silverheels B. Stan Laurel C. Dan Futterman D.Allan Hale

6. The new Gay/Straight Alliance at Boston College is noteworthy because Boston College is: A. a Baptist College. B. run by Focus on the Family C. a Catholic College. D. where Trent Lott went.

7. What car company has new ads targeting which car to gay people? A. Subaru Outback B. Ford Jaguar C. Chrysler P.T. Cruiser D. Jeep Cherokee

On April 9, the National Organization of GLSEN will sponsor a student action protest called? A. Stand Up For Equality B. National Day of Silence

9. What job did Quinton Crisp have that caused him to name his autobiography"The Naked Civil

Servant?" A. Nude artist's model in a state school B. Paid blood and sperm donor

C. City liason to the gay and trans community D. Nude massage therapist at a state park spa

C. Equality Rocks D. These Rights Denied

10. Robert Rouschenberg and Jasper Johns, both openly gay, became famous in the 1960's. They were: A. Dancers B. Chefs C.Artists D. Spys

1.A 2.D 3.A 4.C 5.C 6.C 7.B 8.B 9.A 10.C

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improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley if all people

vere equally protected discrimination based pon actual orperceive race,color, religion national origin, ancest or place of birth, sex,

sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability, or use of a guide animal, in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.

PA-GALA

Valley Free Press

Allentown Human Relations Commission Safe-Space of Lehigh University

PFLAG Lehigh Valley ACCO - A Chorus

Celebrating Women GLORA

Pride of the LV

LV Gay Men's Chorus NCC GLBT Student Union

The Lehigh Valley Labor Party

EQUAL! at Agere

Metropolitian Community Church LV OutThere - Cedar Cre

9th Street Shelter Allentown

LV Community Action Committee GLEE at Air Products

FACT

AIDS Outreach

The Unitarian Universalis Church LV GLOSS

LEPOCO

GLISN of Dun & Bradstreet

AIDS Services Center

Theatre Outlet

Integrity - Bethlehem

The Lehigh Valley Religous Society of Friends (Quakers)

Civic Theater 19th Street Theatre

The Latin Alliance

The Enigma Players

New Covenant Family Ministries

Properties of Merit

Allentown City Democratic Committee

Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance

To add your organization to this list, call 610-432-5449 or email VFP (liztrish@aol.com).

QUOTE #1

The (Don't Ask, Don't Tell) ban, should be abolished if the draft is re-enacted, because mandatory service represents a "higher virtue" than privacy considerations of heterosexual soldiers. -Charles Moskos, I military sociologist who helped craft the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy.

OUOTE #2

"We will no longer tolerate our gay youth having to remain invisible out of fear."- from Scouting For All's motto.

OUOTE #3 This Valentine's Day, perhaps the most important way you can show your love for your partner is by drawing up the legal documents that will help protect your relationship...including: domestic partner agreements, durable powers of attorney for finances, health care proxies, hospital visitation authorizations, last wills and testaments, living wills - and, if you are parents or prospective parents, donor and co-parenting agreements. -- From: First Comes Love, By Lisa Bennett of HRC

QUOTE #4 "It is a justice issue," said the Rev. Elizabeth Goudy, (of MCCLV), "With legal marriage, gay and lesbian couples would achieve equality on a whole range of issues." -- From An Express Times Interview about NFTMD

OUOTE #5 "Mentalities have changed. There is no longer any reason not to open marriage to people of the same sex.' Belgian Justice Minister Marc Verwilghen as

Belgium became the second nation to open up regular marriage to same-sex couples QUOTE #6

"We are gratified that ConocoPhillips acted swiftly to protect all its employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation..." -HRC Ed. Dir. Kim I. Mills, after ConocoPhillips decided to keep its full antidiscrimination policy after the companies merged.

QUOTE #7

"The impossible is the least that one can demand." - Gay African American Writer James Baldwin

Distelfink 3/03 good word, we just We can make it a by Ruby Zebu have to practice

Repeat after me: There's a parking place right in front!

That's so GAY!!! We're not going to be audited after all! That's so GAY!!!

My uncle gave me a BMW! That's so GAY!!! I'm OK, it was only heart burn!

That's so GAY!!! I just won the powerball! That's so GAY!!! World peace has been achieved!

That's so GAY!!!

They did it with "phat" and "bomb"...

The editorial columns and political cartoon that appear in Valley Free Press express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of this publication. VFP makes no indication of the sexual orientation of persons, organizations, or businesses mentioned in any issue.